

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are currently pending in the above-referenced application and are subject to an election of species requirement.

The Office has purportedly identified eleven species of invention:

- Species 1: Figures 1-3, 7, and 8;
- Species 2: Figure 4;
- Species 3: Figure 5;
- Species 4: Figure 6a;
- Species 5: Figure 6b;
- Species 6: Figure 9;
- Species 7: Figure 10a;
- Species 8: Figure 10b;
- Species 9: Figure 10c;
- Species 10: Figures 11a and 11b; and
- Species 11: Figure 12.

An election is hereby made, without traverse, to prosecute the invention of Species 1. It is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-6, 9-11, 14-16, 19-21, and 24 reads on Species 1.

It is further submitted that all of these claims are generic to all of the species of invention that have been identified by the Office. Accordingly, when these claims or any other generic claim are found to be allowable, the claims that are withdrawn from consideration (*i.e.*, claims 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 18, 22, and 23) should be returned to consideration and allowed.

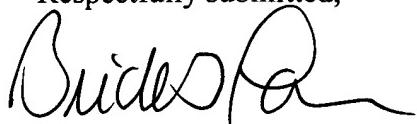
Information Disclosure Statements

Please note that an Information Disclosure Statement was filed in the above-referenced application on August 23, 2003, and that a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was filed on June 14, 2004, but that the undersigned attorney has not yet received initialed copies of the Forms PTO/SB/08A that accompanied these Information Disclosure Statements. It is respectfully requested that the information cited in the Information Disclosure Statements of August 23, 2003, and June 14, 2004 be considered and made of record in the above-referenced

application and that initialed copies of the accompanying Forms PTO/SB/08A be returned to the undersigned attorney as evidence of such consideration.

An early and favorable action on the merits of claims 1-24 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Brick G. Power
Registration No. 38,581
Attorney for Applicants
TRASKBRITT, PC
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

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